

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, June 19, 2017, 4:30 pm, at the West Lafayette Parks Office. Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, Linda Eales and John MacDonald. Jan Fawley, Pennie Ainsworth, Bess Witcosky and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Absent was Park Board member, Pat Flannelly and Park Board Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Also absent were staff members, Chris Foley, Jon Munn and Dan Dunten.

Karen convened the Board at 4:34 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes – provided online initially, then at meeting

Staff Management Report

- Working on 2018 budget, as well as 2017 action plan.
- Parks Foundation keeping me busy:
 - Bimonthly meeting held on 5/18.
 - Mt w/ Marketing Director of IU Health to discuss grants for Happy Hollow Playground
 - Decided to sell bricks for the Schoolhouse @ \$200 per brick. Forms and sample brick available.
 - Mt w/ new board member Martin Jischke to discuss the foundation in general, and our plans for future fundraising.
- Involved in Bike-Pedestrian Awareness campaign:
 - Shared info at WL Farmer's Market
 - Participated in Bike to Work Day celebration at Myers Bridge
 - Attended "Vision Zero" Event in Indy in regards to goals for zero pedestrian, biking, driving deaths.
- Attended WREC meeting, Regular Board of Works meetings, City Council Meeting.
- Presented the completed Parks Master Plan to City Council on June 5.
- Did 2 interviews for Channel 18 news.
- Held maintenance Staff meeting to discuss ongoing work issues, and improving our work for the public.
- Kingston Trail construction has begun on Kingston Street. Issues with pool and playground program have been challenging.

Pennie Ainsworth , Assistant Superintendent

- The week of May 22nd held a bat check on three nights for the Men's Softball League - 137 bats were checked, three were not approved for play.
- The Outpost has been booked to provide the meal for the Parks Board luncheon to be held Monday, October 16th.
- Ordered new AED pads for the Morton and the office AED machines.
- Two loads of playground surfacing material have been ordered.

- Signed over 200 passes to be used when the pool was going to be closed to construction.
- Plaque for Sam Broccolo's bench has been ordered and will be ready June 19.
- Ordered five new drinking fountains to be installed at University Farm Park, Trailside Park, Peck-Trachtman Park, Tapawingo Park and the Arni Cohen Softball Fields. Working on specifications for concrete work and installation.
- Met with Phil Bennett of Miracle Midwest to come up with new playground ideas for Paula Woods Park and the Morton Center.
- The Kiwanis will be adding surfacing material to the Kiwanis Playground in Cumberland Park on Friday, June 23.
- Provided the Police Department with a list of Department contact names and phone numbers in case of emergencies.
- Emailed a request to the Redevelopment Commission for a new Softball Field Groomer for our softball fields.
- Attended the City's ADA meeting
- Took Merrissa, the new Human Resource Assistant, on the tour of our facilities

Dan Dunten, Lilly Nature Center Director

- Mind BOGgling Family Nature Celebration – We have an excellent group of volunteers that help organize and run this event. Our focus this year was on birds, so we brought in a speaker with live wild birds to educate the general public. We also had several other activities for the whole family to enjoy. Unfortunately, it rained the entire day but we still had over 100 people attend.
- Display Task Force – Since we will be losing many of our displays in the Lilly Nature Center, this group of volunteers met to start thinking about the direction we hope to take for future exhibits. Discussion centered on specific themes we might want to concentrate on and who our target audience really is. Work will continue for several months.
- Nature Play Days – Worked with the Junior Nature Club staff to organize four educational and fun sessions for youth. These were held at Tapawingo Park, Celery Bog Nature Area, Cumberland Park and Happy Hollow Park. Approximately 40 youth, plus adults, participated in each of these programs.
- Convention & Visitor Bureau Talk – Gave a presentation to their Executive Committee on the Celery Bog Nature Area, plus our other parks and trail system.
- Parks & Recreation Foundation Marketing Items – Coordinated efforts with a local company to design and have built, various items to help inform the general public about the foundation and upcoming projects. These included three "Pull-Up" table-top banners and a life-size replica of three children holding a dry-erase board that can be written on and changed as needed. These can be used at various events or as a stand-alone display at libraries, etc.

Chris Foley, Recreation Director

- Four summer sports camps have been completed. Summer sport camps are offered by Varsity Coaches at the West Lafayette School Corp. facilities.
- Volleyball Camp - 42 girls enrolled in Coach Chad Marshall's Volleyball camp. The camp was held on May 30-June 2 for grades 4-6 & 7-8 at the High School Gym.
- Girls Basketball camp - 53 Girls participated in Coach Jane Schott's girls' Basketball camp.
- Boys Basketball Camp - 81 Boys registered for Coach Dave Wood's basketball week long camp. Both week long basketballs camps were offered June 5-9 at the High School.
- Softball Camp was held June 13-15. This was the first year for a Softball with Varsity Coach Chauncey Fry. 18 girls participated.
- Sports camps are a cooperative effort with the School Corporation. Special thanks to W. L. Athletic Director, Brock Touloukian, and the School facility maintenance team for working with assisting with scheduling at the school facilities.
- The Tennis program is underway. The tennis program coordinator is Tim Wright, the W.L.Varsity Tennis coach. Tennis lessons for children are offered at both the West Lafayette Varsity Courts at Cumberland School and the Happy Hollow School Courts. Adult Tennis lessons are offered in the evenings at the Cumberland courts.
- The Municipal Pool opened on May 25 for the summer season. This season started off cool but once the weather warmed up the swimmers came to the pool
 - The Swim lesson program began on May 30. Four – two week sessions are offered at the Municipal Pool. Many of the first to levels of swim instructions filled.
 - Adult Lap swim started the same day as the pool opened for the season. The Lap swim program has seen an increase in swimmers.
 - Diving lessons are also offered at the Municipal Pool. The Diving program offers four –two week sessions.
 - Two local swim teams are using the pool in the early morning for team practice from 6:00 am – 8:00am. Fish Aquatics swimmers practice Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Boiler Aquatics practice Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- The two Playground programs began on Monday, June 12. Cumberland School is the site for ages 5-8. New this year, the 8-12 year old program is being held at Happy Hollow School.
- Thanks to the West Lafayette School Corporation for allowing us to provide recreation programs at their facilities.

Jon Munn, Parks Director

- Installed 6 new ADA picnic tables at Cumberland park south shelter, University Farms, Peck-Trackman, Tommy Johnston, basketball court at Cumberland Park and Cumberland North shelter
- Received a compliment on the softball field maintenance; Mark Ebelhar has been doing a great job on the fields this season
- Removed homeless camp behind the Wastewater plant per WLPD instructions
- Cleaned up flood debris on trails adjacent to the Wabash River at Tapawingo Park
- Installed new door knobs at Cumberland South Restrooms
- Completed the installation of block stone ledge at Morris school house, work continues to install drain tile and backfill.
- Ken Vanderhoff covered for Philip at Morton Center 6/5-6/9
- Installed new parking lot light fixture on roof of Morton Center
- Replaced bulbs and worked on all parking lot lights Morton Center
- Completed playground surfacing material at Tapawingo Park, Lommel Park and University Farms Park
- Work continues on tree trimming along all trails, Lommel Park and 3 large ash trees are scheduled to be removed
- Completed pool deck liner replacement with RenoSys contractor
- Pool health inspection passed the County health inspection and the pool opened right on schedule
- Installed new bases on Cumberland softball fields
- Made repairs to 3 gates at the pool
- Mowed residence at 424 Littleton street for the NRT 6/13/17

Bess Witcoskey, Morton Center Director

- Morton Summer Camps started June 5. We are seeing good enrollments so far.
- A project called "SPARK: Lafayette and West Lafayette" is underway and slated to kick-off on July 11. Big Car Collaborative from Indianapolis, with support from local city leaders, is organizing community artists, educators, performers and demonstrators of all kinds to activate public spaces for 11 weeks. The goal is to bring more foot traffic and community member interactions to 2 select areas along State St in W. Lafayette and Riehle Plaza in Lafayette, as well as driving more commerce to local businesses. For more information go to www.sparkplacemaking.org/lafwla/
- Global Fest is moving right along! Here are the details:
 - Naturalization Ceremony: Friday, Sept 15, 3pm- White Horse Christian Center 1780 Cumberland Ave.
 - Global Fest: Saturday, Sept 16, 12pm-10:30pm Street Festival- Chauncey and Columbia

An anonymous donor gave Morton a completely rebuilt and tuned upright grand piano. We have 2 instructors interested in teaching lessons for Fall 2017.

Claims – provided online initially, then at meeting.

Linda motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Old Business

- N/A

New Business

New Chauncey Neighborhood Home Tour

- Bryce Patz, City of West Lafayette - Neighborhood Vitality, is organizing a home tour to view the architectural aspects of the neighborhood, along with the two parks in the area. He is requesting permission to use/showcase the two parks, Paula Woods Park and Lincoln Park, for the event scheduled October 14, 2017, 11 am – 2 pm. Food trucks will be available on Robinson Street. There will be alcohol served in the backyards of the homes on the tour, which currently has seven homes for the tour. Discussion followed. John motioned to approve the event as presented. Linda seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Wiffle Ball Tournament

- Jan presented information pertaining to the event. The event is to raise money for the West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Foundation, which will in turn help with the fundraising kickoff for the Happy Hollow Park Playground renovation. Food Trucks will also be available during the event. Due to the nature of the event, there is also a request to have the fee waived for use of the field. Linda motioned to approve the Wiffle Ball Tournament, with the fee waived, and the allowance of Food Trucks at the event. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

NRG Fund

- Jan provided background information pertaining to the Nonreverting Gift Fund. After working with Peter Gray, City Controller, she has been able to secure use of \$100,000.00 from the NRG Fund, noting the funds will be used towards the Happy Hollow Park Playground renovation. Discussion followed. Jan requested approval for \$100,000.00 from the NRG fund to go towards the Happy Hollow Park playground. Linda motioned to approve the request as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Karen questioned if any of the NRG money is allocated for other projects. Cheryl noted the NRG money used to fall under one fund number, but some time ago, was split into multiple accounts with their own fund numbers, noting some of the funds were allocated for certain things. She noted at this time there is uncertainty of how the fund is set up in the Munis software. Due to different questions that arose, the board decided to table the item until next month's meeting, allowing us to collect more information about the fund(s).

Vehicle Surplus

- Jan requested approval to surplus two trucks. The trucks will be used as trade-in vehicles for the purchase of a new vehicle. Linda motioned to approve the request as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Picnic Date

- The Park Board Luncheon (Picnic) date is set for Monday, October 16, 2017 @ Lilly Nature Center, 12:00 pm.

West Lafayette School Board

- IN Department of Education recalculated all schools 4-star ratings and added many more schools to the list. Cumberland, Happy Hollow and Jr/Sr HS received 4-star designation.
- WL ranked in the top three of IN High Schools with highest percentage of students passing AP exams. Ceremony was held in Indianapolis last Wednesday.

Wabash River

- Jan reported Riverfest is July 8, with new and exciting features being added this year, including a zip line.
- Work continues on the Wabash Promenade and the MARQ, with both progressing nicely.
- More properties are being purchased.

Public Comment

- Pennie passed along information sent to Diane Foster, City of West Lafayette HR Director, from a City employee suggesting a discount for City employees using the Municipal Pool. The employee suggests it would be a nice benefit for employees and beneficial for exercise purposes. Jan said it is something we can think about for next year, but has some reservations.
- Karen reported receiving a letter from Indiana Department of Natural Resources approving the West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Five-Year Master Plan.

Other

- Jan reported she presented the Five-Year Master Plan to the City Council at the June meeting, noting the strong, positive response received of everyone being in favor of the plan.
- Bess presented information pertaining to the addition of beer sales this year at Global Fest. The beer sales will be from one vendor, People's, and will take place later in the evening, from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Discussion followed. Linda motioned to approve

the allowance of beer sales at Global Fest as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

- Pennie submitted an audit for the softball fields for anyone interested.
- Jan presented information regarding the purchase of a brick for \$ 200.00 to help support the Morris School project. Discussion followed.

Adjourn

- John motioned to adjourn the meeting. Linda seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Next Meeting Date

- The next Park Board meeting will be Monday, July 17, 2017, 4:30 pm, at the Parks Office Conference Room.

Presiding Officer

File: Cheryl/2017ParkBoardMinutes/Minutes#06/June2017

Secretary